

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Field Summary for April 1 – April 7, 2010
(Bodie, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)**

Piping Plover (PIPL) Observations:

Observations	Thurs 4/1	Fri 4/2	Sat 4/3	Sun 4/4	Mon 4/5	Tues 4/6	Weds 4/7
Oregon Inlet	2	4	3	6	5	5	8
Cape Point	11	4	9	6	5	7	5
South Beach	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hatteras Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Overwash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Ocracoke	5	5	9	3	NS	2	3
S. Ocracoke	16	2	2	2	1	0	3

NS= Not Surveyed

PIPL Breeding Summary:

Bodie District:

Bodie Island: Up to eight PIPLs have been observed. Most have been observed foraging near the Bait Pond within the Bodie Spit pre-nesting closure. On 4/5 and 4/6 two PIPL were observed foraging outside of the pre-nesting closure on the W side of spit in the tidal area. No breeding activity was observed.

Bodie/Hatteras (Rodanthe to Ramp 30): No PIPLs have been observed.

Hatteras District:

Cape Point: Up to 11 PIPLs have been observed. Multiple instances of territorial behavior have been observed and there appears to be at least three distinct scrape territories. The number of breeding pairs has not yet been established.

South Beach: On 4/5 one PIPL was observed roosting 2.1 miles E of Ramp 49.

Hatteras Overwash/Hatteras Inlet: No PIPLs have been observed.

Other Beaches: On 4/1 one PIPL was observed roosting 100 meters S of Ramp 55.

Ocracoke District:

North Ocracoke: Up to nine PIPLs have been observed foraging and/or roosting.

South Point: Up to 16 PIPLs have been observed along the oceanside and inlet shorelines. Some territorial displays and scrapes have been observed.

WIPL Update:

Ocracoke District: On 4/3 a single WIPL was observed foraging in the South Point pre-nesting closure.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

2010 Breeding Pairs:

Bodie District:

- Green Island: 1 of 2 breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. Three AMOY scrapes were found on 4/2.
- Bodie Island: 2 of 4 breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. No breeding activity was observed.
- Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30): 3 of 4 breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. A new pair, of which one bird has a Hatteras District (2005-2008) breeding history, was observed scraping on 4/4.

Hatteras District: 8 of 9 breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. Four of these pairs are on territory and scraping. One pair has not been re-sighted since first being observed on 2/27. One AMOY with a recent nesting history was observed copulating with a new mate on 4/7. One potential new pair, which scraped in 2009, but was never observed with a nest, has also been observed.

Ocracoke District: 4 of 4 breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. Breeding behavior from two pair has been observed.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB):

Bodie District: No activity observed.

Hatteras District: No activity observed.

Ocracoke District: No activity observed.

Sea turtle nests: None

Sea Turtle Strandings: None

Marine Mammals:

A seal has been observed on three separate occasions at Cape Point this week.

Bodie District:

- No strandings were observed

Hatteras District:

- 4/2 - Neonate bottlenose dolphin found dead at Ramp 44.
- 4/3 - Harbor porpoise found dead 1 mi S of Avon Pier.

Ocracoke District:

- 4/3 - Neonate bottlenose dolphin found dead 3 mi NE of Ramp 67.

Closures – additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed
Bodie District			
BH10-001A	1.0 mi N of Ramp 30	AMOY	4/3/2010
Hatteras District			
HI10-001-A	Cape Point	PIPL	4/4/2010
HI10-002-B	South Beach	AMOY	4/5/2010
HI10-002-C	South Beach	AMOY	4/6/2010
HI10-002-D	South Beach	AMOY	4/6/2010
HI10-004-A	Hatteras Inlet Spit	AMOY	4/2/2010
HI10-005-A	Between Ramps 43 and 44	AMOY	4/2/2010
HI10-005-B	Between Ramps 43 and 44	AMOY	4/5/2010
HI10-006	Sandy Bay	AMOY	4/2/2010
HI10-007	North of Buxton	AMOY	4/3/2010
HI10-007-A	North of Buxton	AMOY	4/5/2010
Ocracoke District			
OI10-004	2.6 mi S of Ramp 59	AMOY	4/5/2010

Closure intrusions

Bodie District:

4/2 - Dog tracks were observed within Bodie Island Spit closure. The tracks extended ~20 meters within the closure.

4/4 - Two sets of pedestrian tracks were observed within the Bodie Island Spit closure. The tracks extended ~15 meters within the closure.

4/6 - One set of dog tracks and one set of pedestrian tracks were observed within the closure 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27. The tracks extended for ~400 meters at or below the high tide line.

Hatteras District:

4/1 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the South Beach closure, just W of Ramp 45.

4/1 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the South Beach closure.

4/1 – Two women were observed shelling in the Hatteras Overwash Fan closure. The individuals left at the request of resource management staff.

4/2 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the Hatteras Inlet closure.

4/2 – A set of ORV tracks were observed in the Hatteras Inlet closure. The tracks entered the closure and made a U-turn and exited the closure.

4/3 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the Hatteras Inlet closure.

4/3 – Three pedestrians shelling were observed in the Hatteras Overwash closure and escorted out of the closure.

4/3 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the Hatteras Inlet closure.

4/4 – Footprints from three pedestrians and a dog were observed inside the Hatteras Inlet closure.

4/7 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the west side of the Cape Point closure.

4/7 – Dog tracks were observed entering and exiting west side of the Cape Point closure.

4/7 – An ORV was observed just inside the east side of the South Beach closure. The driver, who had stopped to shell, was contacted and left the closure. Signage was modified to the low-tide line.

Ocracoke District:

4/2 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the North Ocracoke closure.

4/2 – A single set of pedestrian footprints were observed in the South Point closure.

4/4 – A group of ~5 teenagers were observed at the northern end of the South Point closure.

Two of the teenagers were observed running into and out of the pre-nesting closure. Law Enforcement rangers were notified and two tickets were issued for intrusion into the pre-nesting closure.